

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MINNIE CALLENDER

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, recently, I had the pleasure of meeting Minnie Callender. Minnie was raised in South Carolina with her eleven siblings. She later moved to New York to pursue her college education and earned two Master's degrees in education and school administration. While also raising four children, she worked as an excellent English teacher and school principal. Minnie now volunteers in Middle Township as the Chair of the Township's Senior Citizen Advisory Council, where she spearheaded a plan for voter education seminars to assist seniors and other residents. She also stays active in the local chapter of the AARP and her congregation, Christ Gospel Church, where she leads a weekly bible study. God Bless Minnie and God Bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during Roll Call vote number 341. On Roll Call vote number 341, I would have voted YES.

RECOGNIZING THE AFGHAN COALITION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Afghan Coalition for its outstanding service to the Afghan-American population in the San Francisco Bay Area, particularly during the humanitarian and immigration crisis related to the end of the 20-year U.S. military mission in Afghanistan.

The City of Fremont, partially within the 15th Congressional District, is the heart of the Afghan diaspora in America, the center of the largest Afghan American community in the United States. Many local families have struggled to help their loved ones escape Afghanistan this year as the Taliban resurged.

Founded in 1996, the Afghan Coalition long has been the voice for various under-served groups in the Afghan American community, providing a range of programs including, youth counseling and education, food banking, mental health advocacy, and direct assistance to immigrants and refugees who settle here after fleeing violence and instability.

In recent months, the coalition has hosted a series of town hall events with local elected officials, immigration and mental health experts, and other community leaders in order to keep the Afghan American community informed, comforted, and tied in with community resources during these difficult times.

Through the tireless service of Executive Director Rona Popal, the coalition's board of directors, and its staff and volunteers, the Afghan Coalition has supported and championed countless families in their time of need while also providing important public information to keep the Afghan people's plight front and center in our civic discourse. Their advocacy comes from a place of strength and love, and inspires us all to do more to help those who helped our troops during America's longest war.

I thank the Afghan Coalition for its continued work to improve lives in the Bay Area and around the world.

ANDREW MARTUCCI—EAGLE SCOUT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, this month, I had the pleasure of presenting Andrew Martucci with his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. After Andrew noticed that the sign in front of his local church was eroding and in danger of damage, he decided to build a retaining wall for the soil as his Eagle Scout Project. In addition to the wall, Andrew constructed a garden around the perimeter of the sign to help retain the soil. Andrew's Eagle Scout Project makes both his church and his community proud. This young man should be proud of his accomplishments and it was my honor to have had the opportunity to recognize him for his service to the South Jersey community. God Bless Andrew and God Bless America.

RECOGNIZING SPOJMIE NASIRI

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Afghan-American immigration attorney Spojmie Nasiri for her tireless and impactful work in assisting Afghans before and during the crisis of the Taliban's resurgence.

Spojmie was born in Paktia, Afghanistan, in 1975 and emigrated with her family first to Germany in 1981 and then to the United States in 1982, refugees from the Soviet-Afghan war. After growing up in Concord, California, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of

California, Davis in 1998 and her Juris Doctorate from Golden Gate University, School of Law in 2003.

Today, she is a member of the California State Bar admitted to practice before the California Supreme Court and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

She chose to practice immigration law because she is, as she puts it, "acutely aware of the pain endured by immigrants separated from their families." She has used her personal experience to more fully understand the challenges her clients face, and to help them navigate the complex immigration process. She has done substantial pro bono work, and in 2019 she founded the nonprofit We Have Hope Foundation to support Pashto speaking youth in Afghanistan and around the world by creating accessibility to world-class learning materials in Pashto.

Her life's work took on new dimensions in recent months as she has worked diligently from her Pleasanton, California office to help bring clients out of Afghanistan. Working by phone and email, she strove to coordinate efforts with the State Department to help people navigate the terrifying circumstances in Kabul to reach the airport and escape the country.

At the same time, Spojmie has worked with groups including the Afghan Coalition and the Jewish Community Relations Council to inform the public about Afghan refugees' legal and practical needs for resettlement, and how best to help in the months and years to come.

"As an immigrant, you have a passion, a drive that's unlike any other," Spojmie once wrote. "And you want to give back."

I thank Spojmie for continuing to give back so much in a time of such great need. She is a credit to her heritage, family, profession, and the 15th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harmony House in Springfield, MO, for their work in fighting domestic violence.

Harmony House has partnered with photographer Randy Bacon for the project, Standing Together: Portraits and Stories of Domestic Abuse. The project features life size portraits, videos, and stories of survivors and those who work to break the cycle of domestic violence. The goal of the project is to highlight that abuse is not just a personal issue, but one that affects the whole community. This project will also show the human side of these victims, so that people can understand that they are not just statistics. The exhibition was on display through October 29 at the Pool Art Center Gallery located in Springfield, Missouri on the campus of Drury University. It will now be on display through November at the Randy

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Bacon Studio in Springfield, Missouri. The hope is to show the exhibition regionally and ultimately to a national audience.

Harmony House was founded in 1976 and has since become the largest domestic violence shelter in Missouri, with 168 beds available. In that time, they have served more than 20,000 women, men and children who are victims of domestic violence. Their work in establishing a domestic violence hotline means that victims have access to resources for stopping abuse. Their goal is to provide temporary shelter to victims of domestic violence while providing resources to them on breaking the cycle.

Madam Speaker, Harmony House has spent the last 45 years fighting domestic violence and Standing Together is just the latest example of their important work in educating the community about this ever-present issue. I commend the hard work they are doing, and wish them all the best in their continued efforts.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN DENNIS MOORE

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to honor the memory of former Congressman Dennis Moore, who passed away November 2, 2021 at the age of 75. His long career in public service has left an extraordinary legacy that inspired many, including myself. My heart is with his family, his friends, and the community that he leaves behind.

As we mourn his loss, I'm reminded of the first time I met the Moores in person. I brought with me the pocket U.S. Constitution that I had carried with me all through law school—a pocket Constitution with an official label from the Office of Congressman Dennis Moore. After a good laugh about how on Earth I had managed to hold on to it all those years, he offered to sign my copy and gave me advice on my campaign. For his humor, his thoughtfulness, his dedication to public service (and his guitar playing skills), he will be missed.

Dennis was born in Anthony, Kansas on November 8, 1945 and he attended high school in Wichita. He continued his education in Kansas and received his bachelors' degree in Law at the University of Kansas and was awarded his J.D. from the Washburn University School of Law.

Even before serving as Congressman, Dennis demonstrated a lifelong commitment to service at a local and national level. He was a captain in the United States Army intelligence corps and served in the United States Army Reserve from 1970 to 1973. He also served as Johnson County District Attorney for over a decade. While he was District Attorney, he never lost a jury trial he argued and was instrumental in the founding of SafeHome, a refuge for battered women. In the late 90s, Dennis was elected to the Board of Trustees of Johnson County Community College.

In 1998, after more than two decades of service in other roles, Dennis threw his hat in the ring to serve the Third District of Kansas

in Congress. Although the Third District had not elected a Democrat for over 40 years before that, Dennis won the election against a Republican incumbent with over 52 percent of the vote. Then he won again in 2000, becoming the first Democrat since 1914 to win reelection in the Third District of Kansas. For over a decade, Dennis served in Congress, known for civility and a strong presence in the communities he served. He retired from Congress in 2011 after completing his sixth term.

Dennis served as a Member of Congress during a uniquely fraught period between 1999 and 2011, during which Congress worked to respond to difficult national traumas such as the financial crisis of 2008. Even as Congress and the nation became increasingly polarized during this period, Dennis prioritized civility and bipartisanship to find solutions that would help average Americans. As Chair of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee on the House Financial Services Committee, Dennis held hearings on the impact of the 2008 financial crisis across the country. He also helped to produce the final version of the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010 to respond to the financial crisis and to help America recover.

Dennis had a traditional, common-sense approach to politics and worked hard to build consensus both within his party and across the aisle. When he first took office, Dennis was a member of a bipartisan group called the Center Aisle Caucus where Republicans and Democrats would come together at least once a month to improve cooperation and communication between the two parties. Within his party, he was a proud member of both the Blue Dog Coalition and the New Democrat Coalition, both of which focused on fiscal responsibility and promoting economic growth. Even though he was a pillar of centrism in Congress, he was never afraid to stand up for his values such as supporting women's reproductive rights and championing environmental activism at a time when climate denial was high.

During his tenure as Representative, Dennis sought common-sense solutions on a number of issues that impacted his constituents. These issues included but were not limited to delivering tax relief for middle class families, addressing global warming, and investing in local needs such as transportation, flood control infrastructure, and social services. Among his many accomplishments in Congress, Dennis said that he was most proud of leading successful efforts to improve benefits for our military during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

After leaving Capitol Hill in 2012, Dennis continued to work as an advocate for causes close to his heart, such as increased funding for Alzheimer's research, education, and support. He came back to the Hill in 2014 to provide personal testimony on the burden that Alzheimer's can place on the health care system, families, and the federal budget. In that hearing, Dennis expressed a belief in a Congress that could come together and solve problems. "I really think we need to find those areas where we can and should find agreement," he said. "Good people on both sides work together, and there truly are good people on both sides." His optimism, practicality, and hope for bipartisanship were all trademarks of the leader that he was.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of former Congressman Dennis Moore.

Dennis was a dedicated, gracious, and principled leader who will be remembered for his service to the Third District and the state of Kansas. To say he left big shoes to fill is an understatement—he leaves a legacy of fighting tirelessly for what is good and right and decent for the people he represented.

RECOGNIZING ADRIAN KINSELLA

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Adrian Kinsella and his family for their ongoing commitment to our Afghan allies. Adrian has been on the actual and proverbial front lines of this fight for over a decade, first as a Marine, then as a friend.

While deployed with the Marine Corps in Afghanistan, Adrian met and worked with a man named Mohammad, who was serving as his platoon's translator. They quickly gained a mutual respect for each other, which evolved into a friendship. When Adrian came home from Afghanistan, he knew that Mohammad's service with United States forces made him a target for violence, and his family had already suffered disastrous consequences.

To protect Mohammad, Adrian wanted Mohammad to immigrate to the United States. With Adrian's help, Mohammad arrived in 2014. Adrian then turned his attention to Mohammad's family and focused on them until they were safe as well. He did all of this while continuing his service in the Marine Corps, attending law school at University of California, Berkeley, and serving as a Judge Advocate General before returning to Berkeley for his LL.M. Adrian worked from the halls of his law school, to the non-profit group International Refugee Assistance Project, and even the set of John Oliver's TV show to try to raise awareness about the plight of our Afghan allies and their families. He's been a reliable resource for my team and me, most recently participating in a roundtable I hosted to gather information about what the community was experiencing as the situation in Afghanistan unfolded. He also coordinated with other veterans, strategizing ways to get our allies out and to safety.

Now, as he serves as an Assistant United States Attorney, he, his wife Kate, an Army veteran herself and their daughter all continue working to serve our Afghan allies arriving in the United States. They're frequently waiting at their local airport with welcome signs for newly arriving families. They also collect and deliver household items that these families need to start their new lives comfortably in the United States.

Adrian and Kate are truly the best of us. They stepped up to serve in our military when we needed them, and they continue to give back to our allies who assisted in those fights. They are constantly finding ways to serve our country and their community, and I am grateful.